

MASSACHUSETTS THROUGHbred BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
Board of Director's Business Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2016

Victory Bar & Grill, Dedham, MA

Chairman George Brown called the meeting to order at 6:43 PM.

Board Members Present

Brown, George – Chair
Benson, Karen - alternate
Currie, Bob-treasurer
Currie, Joyce
Janjigian, Armand
Loebelenz, Lee
Pereira, Donna
Ricciardi, Archie - alternate
Rose, Gregg
Salim, Adel
Spadea, Anthony

Absent

Catapano, Frank
Stone, Ed
Zizza, Anthony

Guests

Brown, Arlene –Recording Secretary
Robbins, Bill - Accountant
Andrews, Randy
Kareh, Jackie
Umbrello, Paul

1.) Secretary's Report:

The secretaries report from 8/18/16 was read and accepted.

Motion to accept report: Lee Loebelenz Second: Bob Curie .

Objection: None Abstain: None

2.) Treasurer's Report:

Bill Robbins: The annual report for organizations and lobbyist disclosure was filed last month. In checking with David Lenzilli, Suffolk downs will catch up on simulcast money that is owed and will provide accounting information to back up their numbers as per request of the audit committee. The MGC is preventing the HBPA from paying for the September stakes races at Suffolk Downs. They claim it is "under advisement". The wires from slot revenues have stopped—no written notice as to when or how long. When Bill called Dr. Lightbown, she felt it would be until January 1st but bill feels it will be closer to the middle of February. Armand Janjigian asked if Bill could project the affect it would have on the program next year. Bill answered that he could not as the MGC is meeting 10/18/2016 to discuss the split between harness and thoroughbreds for the 2017 year. Anthony Spadea also called Dr. Lightbown and emphasized that letting the HBPA pay for the September races would cut the retroactive payback in half for us. With funds cut off and HBPA being prevented from helping, things will be very tight next year but we will try our best to maintain a good program.

Motion to accept report: Armand Janjigian Second: Joyce Currie .

Objection: None Abstain: None

3.) Chairman's notes and comments

a. MGC meeting: George Brown reported that he attended the Sept 8th meeting of the MGC to seek approval of the Finger Lakes schedule and also to request approval to run a grass race at either Laurel or Delaware if funds allowed. Chairman Crosby seemed sympathetic to our plight. Andy Hunt is trying to set up a meeting with him and Commissioner Gayle Cameron to try to educate them about the program. Plan B will be to try to seek a legislative solution to try to make our funding a little more consistent and not dependent on the split every year.

b. Grass race: Although the grass race was approved, it seems highly unlikely to occur this year due to the time of year and uncertainty of funds.

4.) Old Business

a.) **Absentee ballots:** A motion was made to mail candidate information to everyone with a note explaining that they will have to contact Gregg Rose to obtain an absentee ballot. This request would have to be made before 10/15/2016 to give time for the ballots to be mailed out and returned.

Motion: Lee Loebelenz **Second:** Bob Currie .
Objection: None **Abstain:** None

5.) New Business

a.) **Horse Rescue:** A discussion concerning our ability to continue donating to horse rescue followed. It was decided that we could probably offer \$5,000 this year. Adel Salim voiced concerns that we have not requested feedback from the organizations that receive the grants. Karen Benson suggested that we include criteria to be met by the applicant. She will e-mail sample copies to Arlene Brown to incorporate into the application to be posted in November, deadline for repose December 31. Directors will go out to evaluate applicant's farms and decision will be made by March meeting with checks to be awarded in April.

Motion: Lee Loebelenz **Second:** Anthony Spadea .
Objection: None **Abstain:** None

b.) **Membership renewal form:** Arlene asked to have specific dates for renewal forms which will be mailed out in November. A motion was made to make March 1st the deadline for renewal at \$100 with no lapse in membership. After that date it is \$150. New members will be charge %\$100 anytime of year they join but it must be before September 1at to be eligible to vote in that year's election of Directors.

Motion: Bob Currie **Second:** Adel Salim .
Objection: None **Abstain:** None

c.) Other: Arlen updated the race schedule at Finger Lakes. Since they are not running on Saturday in November, they changed 11/19 to 11/21 and the 11/26 race to 11/28. The races are posted on www.massbreds.com.

6.) Next Meeting

Date: 10/25/2016 Tuesday Time: 6:30 PM Place: Suffolk Downs – Topsider Room

7.) Adjournment 8:58 PM

Motion to adjourn Anthony Spadea **Second** Bob Curie

Respectfully submitted

Arlene B. Brown